Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, The tradition of Arbor Day grew out of conditions characteristic to the Great Plains, a vast, treeless sea of grass during early settlement; and,

WHEREAS, The early settlers broke the prairie sod, resulting in an ever increasing potential for erosion of our precious, life-giving topsoil; and,

WHEREAS, The planting of conservation trees in windbreaks and on potentially erosive sites will greatly reduce the effects of wind and water erosion; and,

WHEREAS, Trees are truly gifts to us from our ancestors whose concern for the future moved them to plant trees to provide environmental, economic, and aesthetic benefits; and,

WHEREAS, It is the moral responsibility of South Dakotans to follow in the footsteps of our ancestors by replacing trees that die and plant new trees where they are needed; and,

WHEREAS, Arbor Day, the one day set aside each year to commemorate the planting and proper care of trees, has become a symbol of faith and hope for the future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE S. MICKELSON, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 24, 1987, the last Friday in April, as

ARBOR DAY

in South Dakota, and I urge all South Dakotans to actively plan and carry out tree planting projects for the betterment of our state, and to become more aware of the values and benefits trees provide and their importance to the well-being of the people and state of South Dakota. Further, I urge all citizens to demonstrate their concern for future generations by giving the gift of planted trees on Arbor Day and throughout South Dakota's Arbor Day season.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Governor's Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourteenth Day of April, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Seven

GEORGE S. MICKELSON, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

[illegible], SECRETARY OF STATE